



Milwaukee County

Supervisor Patricia Jursik, 8th District

Chair, Economic & Community Development Committee

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SUPERVISOR JURSIK SETS SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEETING ON PARK EAST

Milwaukee, WI – Supervisor Patricia Jursik has called a special meeting of the Economic & Community Development (ECD) Committee to consider a revised development agreement for Block 26 in the former Park East corridor. The matter had been laid over Monday by a vote of 4-3. Supervisor Jursik released the following statement this afternoon:

“It is important for the County to get this matter before the full Board for a vote due to the tight time frame for breaking ground and keeping the project on track and within the development budget.

“Park East development has been stalled during the recent recession. There is new interest due to a growing demand for rental units, a growing trend of young professionals returning to the City of Milwaukee to enjoy an urban lifestyle and amenities, and the exciting projects that are being offered by developers. Block 26 will offer residential units with a river location near many great amenities.

“I am disappointed that one of my colleagues, Supervisor Joe Sanfelippo, chose to issue a press release referencing what he characterized as a ‘crime against humanity.’ As an independent on this Board, I begin with the assumption that all of my colleagues vote in their districts’ best interest irrespective of outside party affiliation. Clearly, it is not good practice to communicate through news releases. As Chair, I listened respectfully to the persons that work in janitorial services throughout the County, and I believe these hard working folks deserve family supporting pay and benefits. I do not agree, however, that this project should be destroyed if no union jobs are promised before any jobs actually exist. I understand that local union leaders are capable of good organizing practices once we actually get jobs to exist for these workers.

“In response to my colleague’s statement, I quote Paul 6: ‘If you want (labor) peace, work for justice.’ I thank MICAH for their comments in a similar vein, but disagree with their recommendation. Let’s get these jobs created. As Chair of the ECD Committee, I will continue to vote in favor of amending the development agreement to keep this project going forward.”

The special meeting will be Tuesday, June 26 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 201-B of the Milwaukee County Courthouse.

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